

How the Pange Lingua (“Crux Fidelis”) looked circa 1040AD :



This piece can be sung in Latin or English.

PANGE LINGUA w/ SATB “Crux Fidelis” by Maria Quinn (d. 1977)

With a poetic English translation by Monsignor Ronald Knox (d. 1957)

SING, MY TONGUE, the victory of the glorious battle, sing the triumph of the cross; how the Redeemer of the world being sacrificed yet conquered.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

1. Pan - ge, lin - gua, glo - ri - ó - si Láu - re - am cer - tá - mi - nis,
Sing, my tongue, of war - fare end - ed, Of the Vic - tor's lau - reled crown;

Et su - per Cru - cis tro - phá - o Dic tri - úm - phum nó - bi - lem:
Let the Cross, his tro - phy splen - did, Be the theme of high re - nown;

Quá - li - ter Re - dém - ptor or - bis Im - mo - lá - tus ví - ce - rit.
How a bro - ken world was mend - ed, Life re - stored by life laid down.

2. The creator pitying Adam's race, when it fell by the taste of the forbidden fruit, then noted the tree; that by a tree the loss from a tree should be repaired.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

2. De Pa - rén - tis pro - to - plá - sti Frau - de Fa - ctor cón - do - lens,
God, for man's re - bel - lion griev - ing, When the world his hands had made

Quan - do po - mi no - xi - á - lis In ne - cem mor - su ru - it:
Per - ished by a fruit's de - ceiv - ing, In that hour his coun - sel laid,

I - pse li - gnum tunc no - tá - vit, Dam - na li - gni ut sól - ve - ret.
By a tree the race re - prieve - ing Whom a tree long since be - trayed.

3. Hoc o - pus no - stræ sa - lú - tis Or - do de - po - pó - sce - rat;
Man's e - ter - nal health con - triv - ing Wrought he with un - fail - ing art,

3. So was the work of our salvation ordered, that art should destroy the art of the deceiver, that healing should come from a tree, as had come the wound.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

Mul-ti - fôr-mis pro-di - tó - ris Ars ut ar - tem fâl-le - ret:
 Wis - dom_ 'gainst the_ wis - dom_ striv - ing_ Of the_ tempt - er's_ guile - ful_ heart;

Et me - dé - lam fer-ret in - de Ho - stis un - de læ - se - rat.
 From that_ source the_ balm de - riv - ing_ Where the_ foe_ had_ steeped his_ dart.

4. Therefore in the fulness of the sacred time the Creator of the world, sent from the Father's home, was born and came forth clothed in flesh from the Virgin's womb.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

4. Quan - do ve - nit er-go sa - cri Ple-ni-tú - do_ tē-m-po - ris,
 There - fore, when_ that_ hal - low - ed_ hour_ Time to its_ ful - fill - ment_ brought,

Mis-sus est ab ar - ce Pa - tris Na - tus, or - bis Cón-di - tor:
 From his_ Fa - ther's heav'n - ly_ tow - er_ Came he, who_ the_ worlds had_ wrought,

At-que ven-tre vir-gi - ná - li Car-ne a - mí - ctus pró-di - it.
 From his_ Moth - er's_ se - cret_ bow - er, Clothed in_ flesh, and_ wel - come_ sought.

5. A child he lay in the narrow cradle and the virgin mother bound his limbs in swaddling clothes; such bands held the hands and feet of God.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

5. Va - git in - fans in-ter ar - cta Cón-di-tus præ - sé - pi - a:
 See a help - less_ in - fant cry - ing, Whom a man - ger_ doth en - fold;

Mem-bra pan-nis in - vo - lú - ta Vir-go Ma - ter ál - li - gat:
 See his_ Vir - gin_ Moth - er_ ty - ing_ Rags a - bout_ him_ in the_ cold;

Et De - i ma-nus pe - dé - sque Stri-cta cin - git fá - sci - a.
 Bound both_ hand and_ feet, and_ ly - ing_ 'Mid the_ beasts, your_ God be - hold!

6. The redeemer had now completed thirty years and had come to the end of His earthly life, and then of His own free will He gave Himself up to the Passion. The Lamb was lifted up on to the tree of the Cross to be sacrificed.

Translation: Fr. Connelly (+1985)

6. Lu - stra sex qui jam pe - ré - git, Tem-pus im - plens cór-po - ris,
 Now, his years of_ life per - fect - ed, Our a - tone - ment's price to_ be,

Spon-te lí - be - ra Re - dém-ptor Pas-si - ó - ni dé-di - tus,
 By the_ doom long_ since e - lect - ed, Bound and_ nailed to_ set us_ free,

A - gnus in Cru - cis le - vá - tur Im-mo - lán - dus stí - pi - te.
 Christ, our_ Vic - tim, hangs re - ject - ed_ On the_ Cross of_ Cal - va - ry.

7. Behold the vinegar,
the gall, the reed, the
spittle, the nails and
spear! His precious
body is torn open, water
and blood rush forth. This
great and mighty river
washes land, sea, stars—
the entire world!

Translation: St. Peter's Abbey

9. Bend thy limbs, O
lofty Tree, relax thy
tense fibers, and let that
hardness which thy nature
gave thee, unbend; and
stretch on thy softened
trunk the members of
the heavenly King.

Translation: Fr. Matthew Britt (+1955)

10. Thou alone wast found
worthy to bear the Victim
of the world! Thou wast
the ark that led this ship-
wrecked world into the
haven of salvation! The
sacred Blood that flowed
from the Lamb covered
and anointed thee.

Translation: Abbat Guéranger (+1875)

11. Eternal glory be to
the blessed Trinity,
to the Father and Son;
the same honor to the
Paraclete. Let all the
world praise the
name of the one and
three. Amen.

Translation: Fr. Fortescue (+1923)

7. Fel - le po - tus_ ec - ce lan - guet: Spi - na, cla - vi, lán - ce - a
Gall he drinks; his strength sub - du - ing, Reed and thorn and nail and spear

Mi - te cor - pus per - fo - rá - runt: Un - da ma - nat, et cru - or:
Plot his gen - tle frame's un - do - ing; Blood and wa - ter thence ap - pear,

Ter - ra, pon - tus, a - stra, mun - dus Quo la - ván - tur flú - mi - ne!
With their cleans - ing tide re - new - ing Earth and sea and star - ry sphere.

9. Fle - cte ra - mos, ar - bor al - ta, Ten - sa la - xa ví - sce - ra,
Bend thy branch - es down to meet him, Bend that stub - born heart of thine;

Et ri - gor len - té - scat il - le, Quem de - dit na - tí - vi - tas:
Let thy na - tive force, to greet him, All its rug - ged - ness re - sign;

Et su - pér - ni mem - bra Re - gis Ten - de mi - ti stí - pi - te!
Gen - tly let thy wood en - treat him, Roy - al suf - fer - er and di - vine.

10. So - la di - gna tu fu - í - sti Fer - re mun - di ví - cti - mam:
Vic - tim of our race, he deign - ed On thy arms, to lay his head;

At - que por - tum præ - pa - rá - re Ar - ca mun - do náu - fra - go,
Thou the ark, whose ref - uge gain - ed, Sin - ful man no more may dread;

Quam sa - cer cru - or pe - rún - xit Fu - sus A - gni cór - po - re.
Ark, whose planks are deep - ly stain - ed With the blood the Lamb hath shed.

11. Sem - pi - tér - na sit be - á - tæ Tri - ni - tá - ti gló - ri - a,
Hon - or, glo - ry, might and mer - it To the e - ter - nal Trin - i - ty,

Æ - qua Pa - tri Fi - li - ó - que, Par de - cus Pa - rá - cli - to:
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Throned in heav - en e - qual - ly;

U - ní - us Tri - ní - que no - men, Lau - det u - ni - vér - si - tas.
All that doth the world in - her - it, Praise one God in Per - sons three.

“O faithful (Tree of the) Cross! the one noble Tree among all trees: no forest yields thy like in foliage, flower, and fruit: sweet iron, sweet wood, that bear so sweet a burden.”

S L D R D T L (L) S R D

Crux fi - dé - lis, in - ter o - mnes O - -
Hail, true Cross, of beau - ty rar - est, beau -

R M S L M (M) F M R R M F S L

Crux fi - dé - lis, in - - ter o - - mnes, in - ter o - -
Hail, true Cross, of beau - ty rar - - est, Hail, true Cross, of beau -

L F (F) S D D.....

Smaller notes are to be sung softly

in - ter, o - mnes
Hail, Cross, of beau -

L F (F) M R

in - ter o - mnes
Hail, Cross, of beau -

If the English words are sung, some note values must be adjusted slightly. These few adjustments (hopefully) will not cause serious inconvenience.

7 T D (D)..... F M R M D L T

mnes ar - bor u - - na nó - - bi - lis:
- ty rar - est, King of all for - est trees;

S M M L D T (T) L S L (L) S

mnes ar - bor u - na nó - bi - lis:
ty rar - est, King of all for - est trees;

R R D R M D (D) F M R

ar - bor u - na nó - bi - lis:
ty rar - est, King of all for - est trees;

S L L L S Si L M R S

ar - bor u - na nó - bi - lis:
ty rar - est, King of all for - est trees;

13 M S (S) L T D M R D (D) T T (T) T

Nul - la - sil - va ta - lem pro - fert, fron - de,
Leaf and flow'r and fruit thou bear - est, Med - i -

S (S) S L S Si (Si) Si

ta - lem pro - fert, fron - de,
fruit thou bear - est, Med - i -

L L D (D) T S D S F M R M (M) M

Nul - la sil - va ta - lem pro - fert, fron - de,
Leaf and flow'r and fruit Leaf and flow'r and fruit Med - i -

M D F S M (M) M

ta - lem pro - fert, fron - de,
fruit thou bear - est, Med - i -

22

D R M R D (D) T (T) L (L) Si L

flo - - - re, gér - mi - ne.
 cine - - - for a world's dis - ease;

L T D T L S F M (M) (M)

flo - - - re, gér - mi - ne.
 cine - - - for a world's dis - ease;

M S (S) S F M R R (R) D T L

flo - - re, gér - mi - ne.
 cine - - - for a world's dis - ease;

L S D R M F S L M R Di

flo - re, gér - mi - ne, gér - mi - ne.
 cine - for a world's dis - ease;

29

S L D R D T L (L) S R D T D (D)

Dul-ce li - gnum, dul-ces cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus,
 Fair-est wood, and i - ron fair - est— Yet more fair who

R M S L M (M) F M R R M F S L S M M L

Dul-ce li - gnum, dul - ces cla - vos, dul - ce pon - dus,
 Fair-est wood, and i - ron fair - est— Yet more fair, who hung on

L F (F) S D D R R D

dul - ces cla - vos, pon - dus,
 Fair - est wood, and i - ron fair - est—

L F (F) M R S L L

dul - ces cla - vos, pon - dus,
 Fair - est wood, and i - ron fair - est—

CCWATERSHED.ORG/HYMN • “Hands down, the best Catholic hymnal ever printed”
 —The New Liturgical Movement Blog (6/10/2019)

37

F M R M D L T L Si

pon - dus sú - sti - net. [A - men.]
 hung, who hung on these.

D T (T) L S L (L) S F M R M S L L S

pon - dus sú - sti - net. [A - men.] Pan-ge lin - gua
 these, who hung on these. Sing my tongue of...

R M D (D) F M R

pon - dus sú - sti - net. [A - men.]
 Yet more fair, who hung on these.

L S Si L M R S

pon - dus sú - sti - net. [A - men.]
 Yet more fair, who hung on these.